

SENIOR CLINICAL NUTRITIONIST

JOB TITLE: Senior Clinical Nutritionist

GRADE: 19

JOB CODE: 2505

DATE: 9/25/02

GENERAL FUNCTION: Under general supervision and in accordance with established nutrition protocols, performs the work of considerable difficulty, requiring the independent application of experienced judgment and skills in providing Medical Nutrition Services to clients served by the local health department. The incumbent in this position has gained experience with the local health department and has completed the variety of training necessary to see clients with chronic illness whose needs require specialized dietary management. Duties will also include community assessment, policy development and evaluation to provide community activities or programs or other community needs as defined by the agency.

CHARACTERISTIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Conducts detailed dietary interviews and assessment of nutritional health including medications, physical activity abilities and dietary contraindications. Determines specific dietary and general physical activity needs based on history and abilities. General laboratory information will be interpreted and counseling will be provided to reflect the specific dietary requirements for the client. Other medical health history information will be obtained to support further counseling and follow-up visits. Referrals will be made to other health professionals, services or agencies as warranted. May obtain general objective laboratory information/results e.g. blood pressure, hematocrit, hemoglobin, blood glucose, cholesterol, height and weight.

Provides mentoring services for health department personnel. May act as preceptor for college students.

Plans, coordinates, arranges and presents educational or orientation programs for the community i.e. school, civic or other public health groups. Collaborates with and participates in local, state and national partnerships and coalitions.

Provides continuing education as needed or as appropriate.

Maintains records and reports according to appropriate standards.

Participates with co-workers and other professional disciplines in community assessment, planning, coordinating, implementing and evaluating community health and nutrition programs and services.

Practice safe clinic and equipment procedures according to OSHA, State and agency policies.

JOB TITLE: Senior Clinical Nutritionist (continued)

JOB CODE: 2505

SUPERVISION RECEIVED: Limited supervision with alternating periods of autonomy and general review. Supervisor plays substantial role in setting objectives and organizing work.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED: May supervise nutritionist(s), clinical nutritionist(s) or other staff.

JOB SPECIFICATIONS:

Knowledge and Abilities

Considerable knowledge of: Medical Nutrition Therapy theory and standards of practice across the continuum of care; the legal implications of nutrition practice; the relationship of other disciplines to nutrition and their contribution to patient well-being; resources available for referral of patients/clients; standard laboratory tests; signs and symptoms of a variety of common diseases; a wide variety of nutrition related health conditions and treatments; the preparation of nutrition care plans; preparation of budget for program(s); and grant writing ability.

Considerable skill in the application of Medical Nutrition Therapy.

Working skill in interviewing and counseling patients/clients; in communicating observations, information or recommendations regarding nutrition diagnosis or treatment to medical professionals and other staff in written or oral form.

Good working knowledge of community assessment, policy development and evaluation as tools for public health.

Considerable ability to learn the policies, procedures and programs for the area of assignment.

Working ability to comprehend, communicate and apply state and federal laws and health codes which affect patient/client care; to provide leadership to staff by demonstrating proper nutrition techniques and procedures; to work cooperatively with other professional and paraprofessional staff members or members of an interdisciplinary or nutrition team; to delegate responsibilities to subordinate staff commensurate with their skills and experience; to identify a variety of commonly encountered problems in the area of assignment and to determine the appropriate treatment strategy, disposition or referral for such conditions or behaviors.

JOB TITLE: Senior Clinical Nutritionist (continued)

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Minimum Education, Training and Experience Requirements: Bachelors of Science degree in nutrition, community nutrition or related field and completion of an Approved Program/Internship as recognized by The American Dietetic Association. Have passed the examination for Registered Dietitian as provided by the American Dietetic Association and be a Licensed Dietitian as provided by the State Board of Licensure and Certification for Dietitians and Nutritionists. At least five (5) years of experience in public health or a community health setting.

OR

Masters of Science/Education degree in nutrition, community nutrition or related field with the title of Certified Nutritionist or Licensed Dietitian as provided by the State Board of Licensure and Certification for Dietitians and Nutritionists. At least three (3) years of experience in public health or a community health setting.

OR

Nutritionists who have been granted the level of a D-9 nutritionist within the Local Health Personnel system as a part of being added to the system through grand fathering when the new classification system was changed in 1992.

The intent of this job description is to provide a representative summary of duties and responsibilities that will be required of positions given this title and shall not be construed as a declaration of the specific duties and responsibilities of any particular position. Employees may be requested to perform job-related tasks other than those specifically presented in this description.